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**For Immediate Release**

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***Operation Honor: A Salute to Veterans* features worthy Keynote**

**WAUKESHA, Wis.** - The City of Waukesha Parks, Recreation & Forestry Department (WPRF) announces *Operation Honor: A Salute to Veterans* presented by INNIO's Waukesha Engine will take place on Sat., Nov. 4, 2023. The event features Keynote Speaker, Timothy La Sage who served more than 22 active-duty years in the Marine Corps and has earned two Purple Heart medals and three Navy Commendation Medals. Following the formal program, the 484<sup>th</sup> Army Ble Devil Brass Band will perform.

"The City of Waukesha is proud to partner with INNIO's Waukesha Engine to honor our Veterans during *Operation Honor*" said Mayor Shawn Reilly. "I am asking for our citizen's support in helping to provide comfort items for our Veterans receiving care at the VA Medical Center and to come out and attend the program."

"INNIO's Waukesha Engine is privileged and honored to sponsor this year's *Operation Honor: A Salute to Veterans* event," said Bud Hittie, the company's President and CEO. "We are deeply grateful to the men and women of our community for their service and sacrifice. It is a debt we can never repay."

*Operation Honor* includes a comfort item drive from 2:00 until 4:00 p.m. for Veterans receiving inpatient care at the Milwaukee VA Medical Center. For a full list of items needed, please visit [Operation Honor: A Salute to Veterans \(waukesha-wi.gov\)](https://www.waukesha-wi.gov/operation-honor). The formal program begins at 4:30 p.m. and includes Master of Ceremonies, CBS 58 News Anchor, Mike Strehlow, Mayor Shawn Reilly, , Director of Service Excellence, INNIO's Waukesha Engine Mike Baxter, and Keynote Speaker, Timothy La Sage. Following the program will be a performance by the 484<sup>th</sup> Army Blue Devil Brass Band. A free dinner will be served to the first 300 in attendance. Both activities take place at the Schuetze Recreation Center, 1120 Baxter St.

*Operation Honor* is generously supported by the following sponsors: Presenting Sponsor, INNIO's Waukesha Engine, Midwest Industries, Inc., The Freeman, Custom Brush Signs, Generac, Mama Ducky's Desserts, Sams's Club, and Thomas Press.

The City of Waukesha Parks, Recreation and Forestry Dept. is National Recreation and Park Association CAPRA Accredited and a Gold Medal agency. For more information, please call WPRF at 262-524-3737 or visit [www.waukesha-wi.gov](https://www.waukesha-wi.gov)

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